

March 12, 2015

Dear Senator Moore and Representative Abecrombie:

I, Elizabeth Hawthorne, have been working in Early Childhood for many years. Throughout the years it has been very difficult being a single mother, working full time, and going to school. Because of the low wages in this field I have had to depend on state assistance programs in order to support my family.

This field is very important to our young children and families. We as educators take our jobs very seriously. It is important that we provide positive experiences for the children so that they will be able to grow and prepare for their future education. We also provide support for the families of the children by sharing information, resources, and guidance.

I hope your decision will be to increase the wages of our Early Childhood professionals so we may continue to educate our children and support their families.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elizabeth Hawthorne". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid, with a large loop at the end of the last name.